

Appln No. 10/789,218
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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-27, 32, 33, 36 and 38-40 are pending in the application, of which claims 21-27, 32, 33 and 36 are withdrawn.

Claims 38-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Speas (U.S. Patent No. 3,035,737). Applicants have amended claim 38 to recite a collapsible fluid container defining an outlet having a nozzle extending from the outlet. In contrast, Speas does not disclose or suggest a nozzle as recited in claim 38.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, Speas discloses a rack 3 which includes a hand pump 9 and a platform 12 for supporting a container 20. In order to connect the container 20 to the pump 9, the rack 3 includes a probe 15 having a sharp pointed nose 16, which penetrates a plastic liner 21 of the container 20. According to Speas, connection of the container 20 with the pump 9 is achieved with the probe 15 piercing and penetrating the plastic liner 21 of the container. Thus, the container 20 of Speas does not have a nozzle extending outward from the container as recited in claim 38.

Because Speas does not teach or suggest a collapsible fluid container defining an outlet having a nozzle extending from the outlet, as recited in claim 38, Applicants believe that claims 38-40 are patentable over Speas.

Applicants believe that claims 38-40 are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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